

REMARKS

The above application is amended to submit information related to the co-pending patent application that was incorporated by reference in Specification on page 6. Entry of the preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Admitted under 37 CFR 10.9(b)

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MARK-UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the third full paragraph on page 6 as follows:

Testing system 300 has a microcontroller 302 and a display 304. Microcontroller 302 processes data and generates control signals. Display 304 is means for providing a communication interface with a user and may be an LCD screen, a LED indicator or the like. Microcontroller 302 may control a switch device 324, such as an FET switch, that selectively couples a load 322 to the alternator, so that the alternator can be tested under load. Load 322 may be a Michrome coil or other resistive wire or the like, or other form of load that draws current from the alternator. Alternatively, load 322 may be provided by turning on electrical accessories of the vehicle, such as headlights, rear window defroster, or the like. As another alternative, the test may be conducted without externally coupling a load to the alternator if the battery draws large current from the alternator. A cooling fan 326, controlled by microcontroller 302, may be provided to help dissipate heat generated by load 322. Reference is herein made to copending application serial number 09/888,382, by the same inventors filed concurrently herewith, titled ALTERNATOR TESTING METHOD AND SYSTEM USING TIMED APPLICATION OF LOAD, and commonly assigned, for description of these [compoenents] components.